

Andalusia, The Cottage
(Nicholas Biddle Estate)
.3 mile south of State Road
Andalusia
Bensalem Township
Bucks County
Pennsylvania

HABS No. PA-1248-A

HABS
PA,
9-ANDA,
1A-

PHOTOGRAPHS
HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, O.C. 20240

ADDENDUM
FOLLOWS...

HABS
74
ANDALUSIA

ARCHITECTURAL DATA FORM

STATE	COUNTY	TOWN OR VICINITY	
PENNSYLVANIA	BUCKS	ANDALUSIA	
HISTORIC NAME OF STRUCTURE (INCLUDE SOURCE FOR NAME)		HABS NO.	
ANDALUSIA, THE COTTAGE		PA-1248-A	
SECONDARY OR COMMON NAMES OF STRUCTURE			
COMPLETE ADDRESS (DESCRIBE LOCATION FOR RURAL SITES)			
.3 mile south of State Road			
DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE SOURCE)		ARCHITECT(S) (INCLUDE SOURCE)	
Circa 1839			
SIGNIFICANCE (ARCHITECTURAL AND HISTORICAL, INCLUDE ORIGINAL USE OF STRUCTURE)			
The structure is an early Gothic Revival cottage with good Greek Revival interior woodwork. It had been enlarged at various times during the 19th century and was frequently lived in by many members of the Biddle family and friends.			
STYLE (IF APPROPRIATE)			
Gothic Revival			
MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (INCLUDE STRUCTURAL SYSTEMS)			
The foundations are rubble. The ca. 1839 portion was originally masonry infill construction and later covered with weatherboards. The ca. 1853 addition had weatherboards. (see p. 2)			
SHAPE AND DIMENSIONS OF STRUCTURE (SKETCHED FLOOR PLANS ON SEPARATE PAGES ARE ACCEPTABLE)			
The 2 1/2 story house is irregular in shape and measures 49'-2" X 56'-10". The front (south) elevation numbers three bays.			
EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE			
The front porch is a replacement of an earlier porch which had open lattice columns and a wood floor. The rear porch appears to be contemporary with the ca. 1853 addition and has turned wood posts. Some of the brick chimneys have terra-cotta caps. (see p. 2)			
INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (DESCRIBE FLOOR PLANS, IF NOT SKETCHED)			
The ca. 1839 house had three major rooms on each floor. There was a center hall, flanked on either side by major rooms. The stair was located off in a side hall. There was one room in the ell on each floor. An addition was added to the rear and east sides. (see p. 2)			
MAJOR ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS WITH DATES			
Enlarged ca. 1853 (rear addition and rear porch). Present front porch added ca. 1925. Weatherboards covered with asbestos shingles 1940s.			
PRESENT CONDITION AND USE			
Excellent condition.			
OTHER INFORMATION AS APPROPRIATE			
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (INCLUDING LISTING ON NATIONAL REGISTER, STATE REGISTERS, ETC.)			
Wainwright, Nicholas B. "Andalusia, Countryseat of the Craig Family and of Nicholas Biddle and His Descendants." The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Bibliography (No. 1, 1977): 3-69.			
COMPILER, AFFILIATION			DATE
Martin J. Rosenblum, HABS, 1974; Susan McCown, HABS, editor, 1983			

MATERIAL OF CONSTRUCTION (continued from p. 1):

There are two kinds of structural system- masonry bearing walls in the original portion of the structure and wood frame in the addition.

EXTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (continued from p. 1):

The front entrance has paneled double doors and is enhanced by diamond-pane sidelights and transom. All windows are diamond-paned and have label moldings. The bay windows have crenelated tops. The gable roof is intersected by smaller pointed gables. A large cove molding is used on the main cornice. The porch cornice is bracketed.

INTERIOR FEATURES OF NOTE (continued from p. 1):

The rear portion contains two reception rooms, a laundry, two bedrooms and a service stair. The east portion has a service kitchen and a bathroom.

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